

## Commander's Connection



Photo by Staff Sgt. Stacy Simon

**Col. Sam Angelella thanks NISH workers at a picnic Tuesday. The picnic was for those NISH employees responsible for the upkeep of Shaw grounds.**

*"Commander's Connection" is a link between Col. Sam Angelella, 20th Fighter Wing commander, and the Shaw community. Questions or concerns that can't be resolved through normal channels can be called in and recorded at 895-4611 or e-mailed to commandersconnection@shaw.af.mil.*

*Callers should leave a name and telephone number in case questions need clarification. Comments of general interest may be published in The Shaw Spirit.*

**Q** Recently, I visited the base exchange and noticed the bathroom was unsanitary and the sink was broken. I went back two weeks later and there was no running water. I just wanted to make someone aware of this situation.

**A** The 20th Civil Engineer Squadron created a work request to check the sink in the men's room at the BX. Repair materials were ordered and the work was completed. We also replaced the fixtures and associated components. Additionally, a regularly scheduled cleaning crew should ensure the bathroom's sanitation. Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

# Happy Birthday Air Force

**By James G. Roche**  
*Secretary of the Air Force*  
**and Gen. John P. Jumper**  
*Chief of Staff of the Air Force*

In 56 years, the U.S. Air Force has earned its wings as the world's greatest air and space force. Our airmen and our technology are the best our nation have to offer, an achievement that flows from the contributions of every airman — whether active, guard, reserve, civilian or retired.

On Sept. 18, the anniversary of our creation, remember that through your integrity, selfless service and incomparable excellence, Americans find strength and confidence in the Air Force's ability to answer our nation's call, no matter when or where we're needed.

We celebrate the Air Force's birthday as we continue to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. Your tireless commitment, agility

and professionalism are the foundation for integrating air and space power into a successful joint and coalition combat operation — one that has already crushed a tyrannical regime and is now helping to blaze the trail of freedom for millions in Iraq.

Yet, as we celebrate, we recognize this success is not without costs. We appreciate you and your families' extraordinary sacrifices. Let's take this special occasion to remember the airmen who made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the security of America and the opportunity of freedom for those who have never before tasted liberty.

The Air Force's legacy has soared in its short history and greater opportunities are on the horizon — opportunities you'll meet with the same courage, commitment and confidence that define our first 56 years. America is proud of our Air Force, and Americans are proud of you. Happy Birthday!

## War on terrorism requires focus, vigilance

**By Gen. Hal M. Hornburg**  
*Air Combat Command commander*

**LANGLEY AFB, Va.** -- Following the events of Sept. 11, 2001, the United States and our allies began a campaign against aggression that still rages today--the Global War on Terrorism. Even today, the men and women of Air Combat Command remain instrumental in this fight. From Operations ENDURING FREEDOM to IRAQI FREEDOM to Operation NOBLE EAGLE closer to home, ACC has been an integral part in the ongoing effort to combat terrorism worldwide.

As we observe Patriot Day, marking the second anniversary of 9/11, I ask you to reflect on the events of that terrible day. Remember what you saw, how you felt and why America chose to fight back. Don't let the passing of time diminish your motivation or erode your commitment to fight our enemies wherever and whenever necessary. We must maintain our focus and do all that

is possible to ensure a tragedy like 9/11 never happens again.

ACC men and women are still deployed around the world fighting terrorism. We played a major role in freeing the people of Iraq and Afghanistan, efforts that changed the world for the better. But now is not the time to stop. There is still much work to be done to ensure liberty-loving people everywhere are free from the scourge of terrorism. We each play a continuing part in this effort and should be justifiably proud of our roles.

But we cannot afford to rest on our laurels. The threat is still out there. Whether at home or deployed, I ask you to stay motivated and vigilant. The war on terrorism requires all of our efforts for the foreseeable future. That said, I have no doubt our ACC airmen will successfully meet the challenge.

Thank you for all you do to keep America, and the rest of the world, safe. I am proud to serve with you.

## The Shaw Spirit

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